

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-22 without prejudice or disclaimer, and substitute new claims 23-43 therefor as follows:

Claims 1-22 (Cancelled).

23. (New) A communications system comprising: a data storage device comprising a store storing data; and a portable user device configured to communicate over a telecommunications network and incorporating a reader configured to communicate wirelessly with the data storage device when the portable communications device comes within range of the data storage device to cause a user interface of the portable user device to issue a message to the user asking whether or not the user wishes to download data from the data storage device,

the portable user device being configured to provide identification data when the user indicates that they wish to download the data and the reader being configured to communicate a signal comprising the identification data wirelessly to the data storage device, and

the data storage device having an identification data storer storing identification data, an extractor operable to extract identification data from a signal received from the reader, a comparator operable to compare the extracted identification data with identification data stored in the identification data store of the data storage device and a controller operable to download data stored in the store to the reader of the portable user device in the event the extracted identification data enables downloading of that data.

24. (New) A system according to claim 23, wherein the identification data store comprises a write only memory portion.

25. (New) A system according to claim 23, further comprising:

an enabler operable to enable writing of identification data communicated to the data storage device by the reader to the identification data store.

26. (New) A system according to claim 25, wherein the enabler is operable to enable writing of identification data to the identification data store in at least one of the following circumstances: 1) there is no identification data stored in the identification data store; and 2) in accordance with the outcome of the comparison carried out by the comparator.

27. (New) A system according to claim 23, wherein the controller is operable, in accordance with the result of a comparison by the comparator of obtained identification data with stored identification data, to enable the user of the portable user device to change or supplement the identification data stored by the identification data store to control the readers that can read data from the data storage device.

28. (New) A system according to claim 23, wherein the identification data store is configured to be writable to only once for storing identification data.

29. (New) A system according to claim 23, wherein the identification data comprises at least one PIN code.

30. (New) A system according to claim 29, wherein the extractor is operable to extract a plurality of PIN codes, the comparator is operable to compare a plurality of PIN codes and the controller is operable to control operation of the data storage device in accordance with the outcome of the comparisons carried out by the comparator.

31. (New) A system according to claim 23, wherein the identification data store comprises a plurality of storage portions, each storage portion being associated with different identification data, and wherein the data storage device is operable to permit access to each storage portion of the identification data store on the basis of corresponding identification data extracted by the extractor so as to control operation of the data storage device.

32. (New) A system according to claim 23, wherein the controller further comprises a determiner operable to determine the number of times the identification data communicated to the data storage device does not have a predefined relationship with identification data stored by the identification data store.

33. (New) A system according to claim 31, wherein the controller further comprises a locker operable to lock the data storage device in a disabled state in the event that the number of times the identification data communicated to the data storage device does not have a predefined relationship with identification data stored by the identification data store reaches a predetermined number.

34. (New) A system according to claim 33, wherein the controller is arranged to unlock the data storage device from a disabled state in the event predetermined identification information is communicated to the data storage device.

35. (New) A system according to claim 32, wherein the controller further comprises an eraser operable to erase at least some of the data stored by the store in the event the determined number reaches a set number.

36. (New) A system according to claim 23, wherein the data storage device further comprises a power supply deriver operable to derive a power supply from a reader signal to enable operation of the data storage device.

37. (New) A system according to claim 23, wherein the data storage device is operable to communicate data to a reader by modulating the reader signal.

38. (New) A system according to claim 23, wherein the data storage device and reader are configured to communicate by radio frequency communication and primarily by inductive coupling.

39. (New) A system according to claim 23, wherein the portable user device is configured to communicate with a service provider via the telecommunications network to obtain the identification data when the user indicates that they wish to download the data.

40. (New) A data storage device configured to cooperate with a portable user device that can communicate over a telecommunications network, the data storage device being configured to communicate wirelessly with a reader of the portable storage device when the portable communications device comes within range of the data storage device to cause a user interface of the portable user device to issue a message to the user asking whether or not the user wishes to download data from the data storage device and to receive from the reader a signal comprising identification data provided by the portable user device when the user indicates that they wish to download the data,

the data storage device having an identification data store storing identification data, an extractor operable to extract identification data provided by the portable user device from a signal received from the reader, a comparator operable to compare the extracted identification data with identification data stored in the identification data store of the data storage device and a controller operable to download data stored in the store to the reader of the portable user device in the event the extracted identification data enables downloading of that data.

41. (New) A data storage device for wirelessly communicating with a reader of a portable user device to enable data to be read from the data storage device, the device comprising:

a communicator operable to enable wireless communication with a reader to enable receipt of a reader signal and to enable communication of data between the device and the reader,

wherein the device is initially arranged to communicate with different readers and, in response to receipt of a reader signal from a particular reader or readers, is subsequently arranged to communicate with that reader or those readers.

42. (New) A device according to claim 41, wherein the reader signal comprises identification data that enables a user of the portable user device to control the readers that can read data from the data storage device.

43. (New) A communications system comprising: a data storage device comprising storage means storing data; and a portable user device configured to communicate over a telecommunications network and incorporating a reader configured

to communicate wirelessly with the data storage device when the portable communications device comes within range of the data storage device to cause a user interface of the portable user device to issue a message to the user asking whether or not the user wishes to download data from the data storage device,

the portable user device being configured to provide identification data when the user indicates that they wish to download the data and the reader being configured to communicate a signal comprising the identification data wirelessly to the data storage device, and

the data storage device having identification data storage means storing identification data, extracting means for extracting identification data from a signal received from the reader, comparison means for comparing the extracted identification data with identification data stored in the identification data storage means of the data storage device and control means for downloading data stored in the storage means to the reader of the portable user device in the event the extracted identification data enables downloading of that data.